

The Congregational Church of South Hero, U.C.C.



The God Who Sees Me, by Teresa Arsenault

4th Sunday after Pentecost
June 21, 2026

9:30 AM

Rev. Dr. Michael W. Galica

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

A few things about our church...

- ❖ A **restroom** is in the back area of the church by the closets. Additional restrooms and a **changing table** are available downstairs.
- ❖ A **supervised nursery** is downstairs for children ages 5 and under.
- ❖ **Bold type** in the bulletin indicates a response by all.
- ❖ An * (**asterisk**) notes a time it is appropriate to stand in body or spirit, as you are able.
- ❖ Hymns marked **NCH** are in the **black New Century Hymnal**.
Hymns marked **W&R** are in the **green Worship & Rejoice** hymnal.

Preparing for Worship

Prelude

Ringing the Church Bell

Welcome & Announcements

Gathered as One

Invocation

Pastor Mike

Merciful and Compassionate God, we come into your presence. Be near to us as we draw closer to you. Be near to us even when we have doubts, have given up hope, and have been overwhelmed by our fears. Be near to us as we sing, pray, give, and receive. We praise you for your goodness and worship you for who you are.

Amen

Introit

“Trumpet Tune”

Bell Choir

by Henry Purcell, arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

Call to Worship

Char Kennedy

The Holy One is great and does marvelous things. Delight in God!

The Holy One gladdens the soul. We lift them up!

In the day of trouble, we call on Comforter and Protector, Counselor and Provider, Companion and Peace.

The Holy One soothes the soul. We call upon their name!

The Gracious and Eternal God gives ear to our prayers and listens to our cries.

The Holy One hears the soul. We turn to our God in hope and faith!

Prayer of Confession

Char Kennedy

Listening God, we acknowledge that you know us. You are familiar with our attitudes, behavior, and character. You ground us in the fertile soil of your love.

Yet, we confess that at times, we feel rooted in sand. We observe our life circumstances, and hope may collapse under despair, fear may overcome courage, and uncertainty drives out faith. Help us, O God, when we cry out and when we don't. Speak to us so that your message drowns out any other voice, including our own, that believes less for us than your promises offer. Do a new thing in us, for us, and through us. Amen.

*A time of silence to contemplate these words
and how they apply to us personally and as a community of faith.*

Assurance of Pardon and Grace

Pastor Mike

Beloved, the Holy One has observed, received, and acknowledged your need and your hope. In Christ, new life has been revealed, opened, and modeled for you. By Spirit, the Holy One leads us into renewing and transformative life.

This is God's will for each and all of us. The love and strength of God will sustain us through every trial and propel us through our journey of hope, healing, and wholeness. Amen.

Our Celebration

“Spirit of the Living God”

W&R #492 v.1

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me,

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Proclaiming God's Word

Time with Young People

Pastor Mike

Prayer for Illumination

Char Kennedy

Psalm

Psalm 86:1–10,16–17 (CEB)

Read by All

LORD, listen closely to me and answer me,**because I am poor and in need.****Guard my life because I am faithful.****Save your servant who trusts in you—you! My God!****Have mercy on me, Lord, because I cry out to you all day long.****Make your servant's life happy again****because, my Lord, I offer my life to you,****because, my Lord, you are good and forgiving,****full of faithful love for all those who cry out to you.****Listen closely to my prayer, Lord;****pay close attention to the sound of my requests for mercy.****Whenever I am in trouble, I cry out to you,****because you will answer me.****My Lord! There is no one like you among the gods!****There is nothing that can compare to your works!****All the nations that you've made will come****and bow down before you, LORD;****they will glorify your name,****because you are awesome and a wonder-worker.****You are God. Just you.****Come back to me! Have mercy on me!****Give your servant your strength; save this child of your servant!****Show me a sign of your goodness****so that those who hate me will see it and be put to shame—****show a sign that you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

Epistle

Romans 6:1–11

Pew Bible p 917

Response

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

“Love Song” *arr. Kevin McChesney*

Bell Choir

Gospel

Matthew 10:24–39

Pew Bible p791

Response

This is the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Message

“Seeing the God who Sees”

Pastor Mike

*Sermon Hymn

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

NCH #553

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Pastor Mike

Let us pray in the Spirit, who helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In the Spirit, we pray for the church... As we have been united in Christ's death, let us be one in the joy of resurrection—set free to take up the cross and follow. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In the Spirit, we pray for the earth... Spring up with your surprising grace in the wilderness and wasteland. Be merciful to the earth you have made. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In the Spirit, we pray for all nations... Where old family feuds divide nations and close neighbors are worlds apart, give blessing; put an end to hate and fear. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In the Spirit, we pray for this community... Redeem those who are mocked and mistreated. Restore those who are cursed and cast aside. Hold them in your hands and save them from evil. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In the Spirit, we pray for loved ones... Draw near to those who are in distress; deliver those whose lives are sinking in despair. Answer them with the abundance of your love. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In the Spirit, we pray to you, O God, confident that all things work together for good for those who love you and are called according to your purpose. Above all, we give you thanks, O God, that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who taught us to pray...

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven: hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen**

Responding to God's Work

Invitation to Generosity

Pastor Mike

The Holy One invites us into our generous life.

Let us bring our resources together in order to support the ministry of this and the wider church and meet the needs of our community and world.

Our giving testifies to the goodness, graciousness, and abundance of God.

Let us recognize and respond to the cries of our neighbors and siblings with our resources offered in love.

Offertory

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.

CREATOR, CHRIST and Holy Ghost.

(sing the ending you are more comfortable with)

Praise FATHER, SON and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Holy One, thank you for the privilege of giving. Bless these gifts and those who give. Enable us to trust and participate in your abundance. Extend wisdom and discernment as we allocate these offerings. Expand our reach and impact for your kin-dom and glory. Amen.

Sent Forth in God's Name

*Sending Hymn "If You But Trust in God to Guide You"

NCH #410

*Benediction

As you go: speak up for the marginalized; give voice to injustice; express cares and concerns of your own household; make a joyful, hopeful, and grateful noise; and remember that the Still Speaking God is also Still Listening; in the Name of God: Parent, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Closing Music "An American Medley" *arr. Anna Laura Page* Bell Choir

*Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve God.

Thanks be to God!

Liturgy adapted from "Worship Ways", Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ and "Call to Worship", published by the Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in partnership with the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.

Thank you to our pastor, Mike; thank you to Char Kennedy for reading and to our musicians, Mary Jane Wirsing and members of our Bell Choir.

These are our Bell choir members:

Diantha Howard, Rachel Wallace-Brodeur, Lizzie Alton, Bev Blakely, Shirley

Bingham, Dolf Wirsing

Judy Ayers, Rosemary Zamore, Barb Smith, Phil Reynolds, Mark Kennedy, and Gayle Wilcox performing as a sub today.

Congregational Church of South Hero, U.C.C.

P.O. Box 99 24 South Street South Hero VT 05486

Pastor Mike cell: **801**-209-6880 Email: mike@galica.us **In office Monday–Thursday**

Pastor Mike's office hours for the week are posted outside his office.

Email: ccshvt@gmail.com Office: 802-372-4962 Web: www.sherochurch.org

Office Hours: Monday–Friday

Announcements

Pastor Mike is off this week, returning Monday June 29th.

The Office is open.

Unable to attend Sunday worship in person? Don't miss out! LIVE on YouTube.

<https://tinyurl.com/CCSHLive> The bulletin is posted on our webpage.



Please join us for coffee and refreshments every Sunday following worship. *Thank you to Elise Whittemore for today.*

Summer Music Schedule

June 21st Bell Choir

July 5th Gena Callan

July 19th Karen McFeeters

June 28th Helen Bishop

July 12th Jen O'Rourke Lavoie

July 26th Phil Reynolds

Church World Service's Blankets and Tools Projects.

We've raised \$950.00 and will continue to accept donations through today, in honor of our Moms and Dads.

Welcome Mission Project assists unhoused families in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties moving into residences. Donations for this week: **Hangers** Leave on the back shelf in the hall.

Village Harmony Concert is Sunday July 5th 3 p.m.

Good Will donation at the door.



Potluck sign-up sheets for the **Village Harmony** Sunday supper (all invited) and for the Monday breakfast are in the hall.



Food For Thought June 25th through August 20th.

For more information on the summer lunches through GISU and FFT, read the E News, email Kaight Althoff at

fftsummerlunch@gmail.com or call Margaret 802-372-4962